

Signature

12-04-06

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

RCEATIN

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	10/696,933	
Filing Date	October 30, 2003	
First Named Inventor	Rene Bitsch	
Group Art Unit	2162	
Examiner Name	Anh Ly	
Attorney Docket Number	M61.12-0532	

provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice. 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 a.

Previously submitted Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on 12/05/2006 BABRAHA1 00000065 10696933 iii. 🗆 Other : 790.00 OP 01 FC:1801 b.

Enclosed \boxtimes Amendment/Reply Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iii. 🗆 iv. 2. Miscellaneous a.□ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) b.□ Other 3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed. a.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees if not otherwise paid, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 23-1123 \times RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) iii. 🗆 Other b.

Check in the amount of \$_790.00 enclosed c. D Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED Name (Print /Type) Christopher L. Holt Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 45.844 Signature 12/1/2006 CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: Name (Print/Type) Christopher L. Holt

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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12/1/2006